



208 788 4441

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INTEGRATED **P**EST **M**ANAGEMENT

Management of insects and diseases on trees can be costly, may be environmentally hazardous, and can even be frustratingly ineffective.

Alternatives are needed to make our landscapes more sustainable. What is needed is a way to decrease the amount of pesticides used and improve trees' natural resistance to pests.

Alpine Tree Service is promoting Integrated Pest Management as a significant step in the right direction.

Call us for a more comprehensive discussion of what IPM is and how it works.

**SOLVING THE PROBLEM:
INSECTS AND DISEASES
ARE DOING A
SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT
OF DAMAGE TO OUR
LANDSCAPE.**

**WE NEED TO MINIMIZE
THE USE OF
INSECTICIDES AND
FUNGICIDES.**

**INTEGRATED PEST
MANAGEMENT WILL,
OVER TIME, DECREASE
RELIANCE ON
EXPENSIVE PESTICIDES
AND PROVIDE FOR A
HEALTHIER LANDSCAPE**



All trees live with some pests, but there are some factors that can contribute to serious pest problems:

Overcrowding: Landscapes are very frequently planted without consideration of the mature size of the trees. Overcrowded trees do not get the light or air they need to be healthy individuals.

Overwatering: Frequent, low duration watering can make a lawn look great, but can damage tree health. Trees generally need soil to dry between watering to allow for the roots to breathe, and frequent, shallow watering may fail to reach a tree's roots.

Weed Killer: The herbicide used on a lawn to control dandelions, or other broad leaf weeds, can also damage or kill trees.

Weather: The past few years have seen both warmer and more volatile weather conditions in the Valley. Warmth helps pests, and volatile weather can place unusual stresses on trees.

Monoculture: There has been an overabundance of Aspen and Spruce trees planted in the Valley in the past 30 years. Lack of diversity means pests can easily spread.



INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES:

1. PREVENT INFESTATION

-  **IMPROVE TREE HEALTH**
-  **IMPROVE DIVERSITY**

2. MONITOR PESTS

-  **ASSESS TREE HEALTH**
-  **IDENTIFY THREATS**

3. SET ACTION

THRESHOLDS

-  **ONLY TREAT WHEN
DAMAGE IS SIGNIFICANT**

4. CONTROL

-  **MAINTAIN AS LIGHT A
FOOTPRINT AS POSSIBLE**
-  **ALTERNATE TREATMENT
METHODS TO PREVENT
RESISTANCE**

PREVENTION OF PESTS AND DISEASE IS THE KEY

What you can do:

-  **Thin and trim your existing landscape to allow for more sunlight, better air flow, and more space between trees. Plus, this may open up more sky, views, or useable parts of your yard.**
-  **Diversify your yard: Many trees are not the right species for their location. A landscape designer, arborist, or nursery specialist can help.**
-  **Feed your trees: Organic compost and soil supplements that create a good relationship between roots and soil will boost a tree's long term health and disease resistance**
-  **Water less frequently, and for longer periods of time. Deep watering will develop more robust roots, better drought tolerance, and healthier soils.**
-  **Spot spray for weeds, and do not spray Aspen suckers – they are connected to the parent tree.**

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Recommendations for all planting:

- ✓ Plant landscapes with anticipation of mature plant sizes; avoid overcrowding.
- ✓ Unless you do the planting yourself, hire the nursery where you purchase the tree to install it.
- ✓ Make sure the nursery warrants their work (usually for a year).
- ✓ If you do the planting yourself, make the hole twice as wide as the root mass, and be careful not to plant too deep.
- ✓ All plants should be watered heavily for the first few weeks after planting.
- ✓ Treat plants with a root stimulant and soils supplement, such as our Alpine Custom Blend, within the first year, for better root development.